putty, but sufficiently thin to be *run* through a sieve into a pan or bay, made with the sand with which it is to be mixed. The fineness of the sieve must be regulated by the nature of the lime, and the work to be performed; in large works, a cistern and sluice, with a cast-iron grating of $\frac{1}{8}$ of an inch space, would be requisite. Should this not be sufficiently explanatory to "H. S. S.," and you wish it, I will write you a chapter on the management of limes.

I am, Sir, &c.,

H. N.

Miscellanea.

Society of Arts.—March 5th. Joseph Hume, Esq., M.P., V.P., in the chair. R. Rowie and Jos. Bennett, Esqrs., were elected members. The secretary read a paper, by Mr. E. Dalton, "On the construction of models for an Ethnographical Museum, and the materials best suited for the purpose." The design for an ethnographical museum, for the illustration and study of mankind, originated with the author more than a year ago, and the object of the present paper was to bring forward the general advantages of such an institution, and the result of inquiries and experiments as to the material best suited for the construction of models suitable for carrying out this important design. The possibility of casting *entire* from the living model is not perhaps generally known. The late Sir Francis Chantry effected this upon a negro man. The specimen is lodged at the College of Surgeons, and presents a faithful representation of the original. The moulds of this cast are in the possession of Mr. Weeks, the sculptor, to whom Sir Francis left the greater portion of his studies. The model of a New Zealander, of the Ngatiawa tribe, now in London, was exhibited to the meeting, as an example of the illustration of the different races of man, proposed to be collected by the ethnographical society. The head and arms of this specimen consist of wax, and were cast separately, and then attached to the body. The hair is removable, so as to allow of an inspection of the conformation of the scull. The time required for completing this model was about fourteen days; and its cost including costume is estimated at 20*l.*; whereas a similar model, completely *undraped* and cast *entire*, would amount to about 40*l.* The wax of this model had been painted in oil colours, so as to represent the tints of the flesh, and render it capable of being cleaned. A new clay was proposed by Mr. Dalton for such models: a notice of it by the inventor will be found in another page.

Difficulties of Ventilation.—A laughable conversation took place in one of the committees of the House of Commons a few days since, relative to the temperature of the room, which had much annoyed hon. members during the day. Mr. Barneby, on entering the room, wished the hot foul air to be expelled, but the valves had not long been open for that purpose, when the chairman complained of the coldness of his legs. Dr. Reid was at last sent for; and on Mr. Aglionby stating to him the nature of his complaint, said that if air was expected to go out, air must be let come in—a statement which the chairman did not dispute, but nevertheless did not seem to think any good reason why his legs should suffer. If that were ventilation, the less of it they had the better. Dr. Reid remarked upon the difference of temperature desired by hon. members. Some said they were too hot—others complained of the cold. If they would select any hon. member as their index, he (Dr. Reid) could adapt the thermometer to his particular satisfaction. Where extremes existed, it was evident that an adaptation of a medium could not be effected. Mr. Aglionby had a decided objection to the process of adaptation being carried on against his legs; and Mr. Buller said, that instead of hon. members' feet being warm and their heads cool, their feet were cool and their heads warm. Several members having commented upon the varying state of the thermometer, and expressed their individual opinions as to the temperature, Dr. Reid gave orders for the cold air valves to be closed, and stated that he would send in hot air as soon as the furnaces were heated. We have yet much to learn on this important subject.

Floating Dock.—A floating dock has been invented by a Mr. Lennox and submitted to the Admiralty. The Director of Works at Woolwich yard has been ordered to prepare detailed drawings of the scheme.

House of Commons.—The new committee-rooms are now completed, with one or two trifling exceptions. During the past week the doors were hung, and fires placed in each apartment to allow them to be properly aired. The rooms vary in size; some of them being very spacious, with a view of affording accommodation to a great number of witnesses and others who are engaged on important bills. The tables are also so arranged, that the confusion so much complained of at present will be entirely obviated, ample space being allowed between the tables and at the sides for the persons in attendance.—*Globe*.

The Royal Academy.—As we were the means of informing the public that the Royal Academicians had resigned the privilege of each exhibiting *eight* pictures as heretofore enjoyed, and limited it to six (although our excellent contemporary the *Art-Union* fancies he learnt the fact from a provincial newspaper), it is necessary we should state that the resolution has been since rescinded, and that the old right of hanging eight pictures has been re-established. We lament this step on the part of the Academy very much, and fear they will have cause to repent it. They seem to have made up their minds that reform shall come from without; how much wiser would it be for themselves to render it unnecessary.

Tenders.

Tenders delivered for the erection of a New Church in Charlotte-street, Fitzroy-square.—Hugh Smith, Architect, Bedford-row.

Messrs. Piper	£7,470
Messrs. Cubitt	7,398
Messrs. Locke and Nesham	7,363
Messrs. Pearse and Guerrier	7,277
Mr. Wilsland	6,879

Tenders delivered for Building a Factory for John Gadsby, Esq., in Bouverie-street, City.—Mr. C. S. Richardson, Surveyor, opened in the presence of the parties.

Waterman	£1,374
Chapman	1,365
Ternan and Son	1,293
Waterlow	1,262

For the Erection of Bristol Barracks.—Messrs. Read and Baker's Tender for 60,000*l.* was accepted. The Works to be completed in two years.

For Enlarging the Bristol Docks, near the Cumberland Basin.—Messrs. Renie, Logan, and Co.'s Tender for 18,000*l.* was accepted.

NOTICES OF CONTRACTS.

[We are compelled by the interference of the Stamp Office to omit the names of the parties to whom tenders, &c., are to be addressed. For the convenience of our readers, however, they are entered in a book, and may be seen on application at the office of "The Builder," 2, York-street, Covent-garden.]

For the repairs and restoration of the Tower and Nave of St. Mary's Church, Nottingham. March 17.

For new-paving such parts of the parish of St. Mary, Islington, and repairing the paved Footways, as may from time to time be required, during one whole year from Lady-day next. March 19.

For paving and repairing certain streets and ways in the parish of St. James, Clerkenwell, for one year, from the 25th inst. March 20.

For supplying her Majesty's several Dock-yards with Riga Hand Masts and Fir Timber, Dantzic Deck Deals and Fir Timber, and Norway Spars. March 28.

For the supply of 11,000 feet of nine-inch cast-iron Pipes for a new line of Aqueduct to be laid in the Island of Malta. March 31.

For the erection of a new Workhouse at Stratton, St. Margaret, about Midway between Swindon and Highworth, Wiltshire. April 2.

For the erection of a Church in the parish of St. Thomas, Winchester. April 5.

For constructing the fourth division of the Great Southern and Western Railway. April 8.

For submitting a plan of a Tread-wheel, and constructing the same in the Common Gaol of Great Yarmouth, Norfolk. April 24.

For laying out the grounds of the Victoria Park Cemetery and draining the same, with plans and specifications, to include making the roads, paths, and finding all necessary trees, shrubs, materials, &c.

For the supply of 11,000 feet of 9-inch cast-iron Pipes for a new line of Aqueduct in the Island of Malta. April 30.

For new-paving parts of the parish of St. Mary, Islington, Middlesex; and for repairing and keeping in repair the paved Footways belonging thereto, for one year from Lady-day next. Also for supplying unbroken Guernsey Granite, Core, Ballast, Gravel, and clean Flints.

COMPETITIONS.

Plans and Specifications for Covered Ways at the Lunatic Asylum, Melton. March 18.

Plans for the most convenient mode of landing or embarking passengers, carriages, &c., &c., at George's Pier-head, Liverpool. A Premium of 200*l.* will be given for the Plan selected and acted upon, and a Premium of 100*l.* will be given for that Plan which may be deemed to be the next in utility. March 19.

A Plan, Specification, and Estimate, for a Pier, Slip, or Jetty, to be erected at Weston-super-Mare, Somerset. Twenty-five guineas is offered for the most approved plan. March 24.

APPROACHING SALES OF WOOD, &c.

BY AUCTION.

March 17.—At Herringswell, Suffolk: 400 Larch Trees, many of very large dimensions, measuring 50 feet in length, and containing upwards of a load of sound timber in a tree; 19 large Willow Trees; a very large Poplar; and 400 Scotch and Spruce Trees, upwards of forty-five years' growth.

March 17.—At Herringswell, Suffolk: 400 Larch Trees, many of them measuring 50 feet in length, and containing upwards of a load of sound timber; 490 Scotch and Spruce Trees, upwards of 45 years' growth; 19 large Willow Trees, and a very large Poplar.

March 18.—At West Buckland, Somerset: 833 Oak, Elm, and Ash, Maiden, and Pollard Timber Trees.

March 18.—At Wareley, Huntingdonshire: A large fall of Ash and Elm Timber Trees; also Larch, Spruce, Birch, Beech, Chesnut, Alder, and Hornbeam Spires, very straight, large, and long.

March 18.—At Wareley, Huntingdonshire; a large Fall of Ash and Elm Timber Trees, and Larch, Spruce, Birch, Beech, Chesnut, Alder, and Hornbeam Spires, very large, straight, and long.

March 19.—At Rufford Hall, near Ormskirk, Lancashire: 223 lots of Timber, consisting of Ash, Alder, Birch, Beech, Elm, Sycamore, Willow, &c. &c. The Timber is chiefly of from thirty to forty years' growth.

March 28.—At Garraway's Coffee-house, Cornhill: 350 loads of Red Pine Timber; 700 loads of Baltic; 10,000 Colonial Deals; and 10,000 Baltic and Swedish Deals.

March 28.—At Moor-house Farm, Denham, Bucks: 3,591 Oak Trees and Saplings; 220 Ash; 136 Cherry; and 3 Alder Trees.

March 31.—At 7, Store-street, Bedford-square: several thousand Yellow Deals, Pine and Spruce ditto, Battens, Planks, and Boards, Ash Felloes and Planks, and other seasoned Wood.

March 24.—At Bradley's Wood, Halsted, Essex: 500 good Fir Trees; 5,700 capital Hurdle and Hop Poles; 54 Loads of Wood, &c.

March 31.—At Down Hall, Bradwell, Essex 310 Oak Timber Trees, standing with Top, Lop, and Bark; 213 Ash, 157 Elm, and 78 Beech Trees.

The last week in March, or the first week in April next.—A large quantity of Oak and Elm Timber, of superior quality and large dimensions, principally growing in the woods on the Orchardleigh Estate, near Frome, Somerset.

By Private Contract, before the 1st of April next.—287 Oak Trees, of full growth and large dimensions, suitable for all purposes, now standing at Woodside, near Morland, Westmoreland.

April 1.—At Chelmsford, Essex; a very valuable, extensive, and well-assorted stock of Dry Wood in great variety, comprising fine Spanish and Honduras Mahogany, mostly cut between six and seven years; particulaly fine Zebra Wood, English Oak, Pencil Ceder, Birch, Beech, Elm, Rosewood, &c.

MEETINGS OF SCIENTIFIC BODIES

During the ensuing week.

Monday, March 17.—*Statistical*, 11, Regent-street, 8 P.M.; *Chemical* (Society of Arts), Adelphi, 8 P.M.; *Medical*, Bolt-court, Fleet-street, 8 P.M.

Tuesday, 18.—*Linnean*, Soho-square, 8 P.M.; *Horticultural*, 21, Regent-street, 3 P.M.; *Civil Engineers*, 25, Great George-street, 8 P.M.

Wednesday, 19.—*Society of Arts*, Adelphi, 8 P.M.; *Microscopical*, 21, Regent-street, 8 P.M.

Saturday, 22.—*Royal Botanic*, Regent's Park, 4 P.M.

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